

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A system for verifying a document comprising:
2 first means for providing a first electronic image of a document;
3 second means for providing a second electronic image of a
4 document; and
5 third means for comparing said first and second electronic images
6 and providing an output in response thereto.

1 2. The invention of Claim 1 wherein said second image is
2 derived from said first image.

1 3. The invention of Claim 1 wherein said second means
2 includes a scanner.

1 4. The invention of Claim 3 wherein said second means
2 includes a printer.

1 5. The invention of Claim 4 wherein said scanner is mounted to
2 scan a document printed by said printer to provide said second image.

1 6. The invention of Claim 5 further including means for adding
2 a fingerprint to said second image.

1 7. The invention of Claim 6 further including means for printing
2 said fingerprint on said document.

1 8. The invention of Claim 7 wherein said scanner is adapted to
2 scan said fingerprint and provide a fingerprint output signal in response thereto.

1 9. The invention of Claim 8 further including means responsive
2 to said fingerprint output signal for inhibiting said printer.

1 10. The invention of Claim 5 further including means for
2 detecting a print restriction with respect to said first image.

1 11. The invention of Claim 10 further including means
2 responsive to said print restriction and said third means for disabling a second
3 print of said document.

1 12. The invention of Claim 1 wherein said first means includes a
2 personal computer.

1 13. The invention of Claim 12 wherein said first image is
2 provided to said computer via a network.

1 14. The invention of Claim 13 wherein said network is the
2 Internet.

1 15. The invention of Claim 1 wherein said third means includes
2 software stored on a computer readable medium.

1 16. The invention of Claim 15 wherein said software is stored in
2 memory in a personal computer.

1 17. The invention of Claim 15 wherein said software is stored in
2 memory in a scanner.

1 18. The invention of Claim 1 wherein said third means includes
2 means for converting said first image to text.

1 19. The invention of Claim 18 wherein said third means includes
2 means for converting said second image to text.

1 20. The invention of Claim 19 wherein said third means includes
2 means for comparing said text representing said first image to said text
3 representing said second image.

1 21. A system for verifying a printed document comprising:
2 a computer for providing a first electronic image of a document;
3 a printer coupled to said computer;
4 a scanner adapted to scan a document printed by said printer to
5 provide a second electronic image of said document; and
6 software for comparing said first and second electronic images and
7 providing an output in response thereto.

1 22. The invention of Claim 21 further including means for
2 adding a fingerprint to said second image.

1 23. The invention of Claim 22 further including means for
2 printing said fingerprint on said document.

1 24. The invention of Claim 23 wherein said scanner is adapted
2 to scan said fingerprint and provide a fingerprint output signal in response
3 thereto.

1 25. The invention of Claim 24 further including means
2 responsive to said fingerprint output signal for inhibiting said printer.

1 26. The invention of Claim 21 further including means for
2 detecting a print restriction with respect to said first image.

1 27. The invention of Claim 26 further including means
2 responsive to said print restriction and said software for disabling a second print
3 of said document.

1 28. The invention of Claim 21 wherein said first image is
2 provided to said computer via a network.

1 29. The invention of Claim 28 wherein said network is the
2 Internet.

1 30. The invention of Claim 21 wherein said software is stored in
2 memory in a personal computer.

1 31. The invention of Claim 30 wherein said software is stored in
2 memory in a scanner.

1 32. The invention of Claim 30 wherein said software includes
2 means for converting said first image to text.

1 33. The invention of Claim 32 wherein said software includes
2 means for converting said second image to text.

1 34. The invention of Claim 33 wherein said software includes
2 means for comparing said text representing said first image to said text
3 representing said second image.

1 35. A method for verifying a document including the steps of:
2 providing a first electronic image of a document;
3 providing a second electronic image of a document; and
4 comparing said first and second electronic images and providing an
5 output in response thereto.